

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Governor Terry E. Branstad ★ Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds

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Branstad names Mark Schouten as new head of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management

(DES MOINES) – Gov. Terry E. Branstad today named Mark Schouten as the new head of the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, replacing Brig. Gen. Derek Hill, whom Branstad last week appointed as Deputy Adjutant General of the Iowa National Guard.

Branstad praised Hill's service, and said he looks forward to working with Schouten.

"This is a pivotal position within state government, as there is no higher priority than protecting the health and safety of Iowans," said Branstad. "Derek Hill was a great leader for the department, and I wanted to ensure we continued the highest level of professionalism in working with our Homeland Security partners throughout the state. Mark Schouten is the right leader to fill this position."

Schouten will work with Brig. Gen. Hill to ensure a smooth transition occurs. Hill and Schouten will work on a timeline during the transition in order to determine Schouten's firm start date.

"I am honored and excited to begin my work at the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management," said Schouten. "I believe we have one of the best-managed departments in the country, and I look forward to upholding our proud tradition in keeping Iowans safe and secure in their daily lives."

Schouten is currently head of the Office of Drug Control Policy. His replacement will be named by Branstad at a later date.

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